

What makes Drug Court different?

Individuals that participate in the Drug Court Program work with a multi-disciplinary team; a group of professionals with varied experience, qualifications and skills that work to achieve what is in the best interest of the participant.

Members of the multi-disciplinary team may include:

- A Circuit Court Judge
- A Drug Court Coordinator
- A Probation and Parole agent
- A Representative from the District Attorney's Office
- A Representative from the Public Defender's Office/Defense Attorney
- A Substance Abuse Counselor
- A Law Enforcement Officer

The mission of the St. Croix County Drug Court is to promote the recovery from substance use disorders and reduce related criminal behavior. The program will improve the lives of participants, families, and the community by providing intensive court supervision and treatment while holding participants accountable.

If you would like more information regarding the St. Croix County Drug Court Program, please contact:

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St. Croix County Drug Court



*"If you always do what you have always done,
you will always get what you have always
gotten."*

Jane Kirkpatrick,
What Once We Loved

• Change Is Difficult, Embrace It •



What is Drug Court?

The St. Croix County Drug Court Program is a specialty court designated for nonviolent offenders with substance use disorders. First developed in Miami, Florida in 1989, drug courts combine intensive judicial monitoring with alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) treatment and strict community supervision. With more than 3,000 drug courts in operation nationwide, drug courts are the single most effective justice intervention for treating substance-using individuals.

Drug courts are built upon a unique partnership between the criminal justice system and the treatment community. Using a non-adversarial approach, the Drug Court Judge and a dedicated team work together to promote long-term, sustained recovery for individuals with substance use disorders.

The comprehensive Drug Court Model includes:

- Offender screening and assessment of risks, needs, and responsivity
- Judicial interaction
- Monitoring (e.g., drug testing) and supervision
- Graduated sanctions and incentives
- Treatment and rehabilitation service

How does it work?

The St. Croix County Drug Court Program consists of four phases. The first phase is a minimum of 60 days, the second phase is a minimum of 120 days, the third phase is a minimum of 150 days, and the fourth phase is a minimum of 120 days, for a total program minimum of 15 months.

The goals of the phases are:

- Phase I – Stabilization
- Phase II – Treatment
- Phase III – Transition
- Phase IV - Maintenance/Sustainability

During the program, participants will be held accountable and expected to comply with all program requirements such as random drug and alcohol testing, maintaining consistent employment, attending support groups, treatment sessions, and court hearings, paying the Drug Court fees, achieving stable living conditions, and other personal goals.

Fees

The total cost to participate in the St. Croix County Drug Court program is \$1,000.00. This fee is divided into four pre-determined payments to be paid each time a participant achieves eligibility for program phase advancement. The total required fee for each phase is as follows:

- Phase I: \$200 – During Phase I, participants may elect to perform 30 hours of community service work for local non-profit organizations as a one-time deduction from their total Drug Court fees.
- Phase II: \$250
- Phase III: \$250
- Phase IV: \$300



Treatment Courts

How do you get in?

Referrals to the St. Croix County Drug Court program may be made by any of the following persons:

- Any Circuit Court Judge
- The District Attorney's Office
- The Defense Attorney
- Probation and Parole Agent
- Program Coordinator
- Individuals (self-referral)

A referral should be submitted to the Drug Court Coordinator to determine if the candidate meets the eligibility requirements. If the eligibility requirements are met, the candidate will undergo a risk/needs assessment. If the candidate's assessment indicates high risk for recidivism and high need for AODA or other services, the candidate will undergo, at no cost, an AODA Assessment that is specific to Drug Court. The Drug Court Coordinator and the District Attorney's Office will review all of the information collected about the candidate and decide whether to advance the candidate to the Drug Court Team for final review. If a candidate advances to a final review, he or she will observe a Drug Court hearing and the Drug Court Team will personally interview the candidate. The Drug Court Team will make a final determination about the candidate's eligibility and make a recommendation whether the candidate is appropriate for the program. The final decision is made by the sentencing Judge.

Who is Eligible?

Potential candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Adult (17 or older)
- St. Croix County resident
- Pending felony charges of drug possession/manufacture/delivery, alcohol and/or drug related offense, and/or felony OWI; other charges (may include misdemeanors) related to substance use will be considered on a case by case basis
- Resolution and/or pending resolution of all other felony charges
- Not a "violent offender," as defined by Wis. Stat. § 165.95.